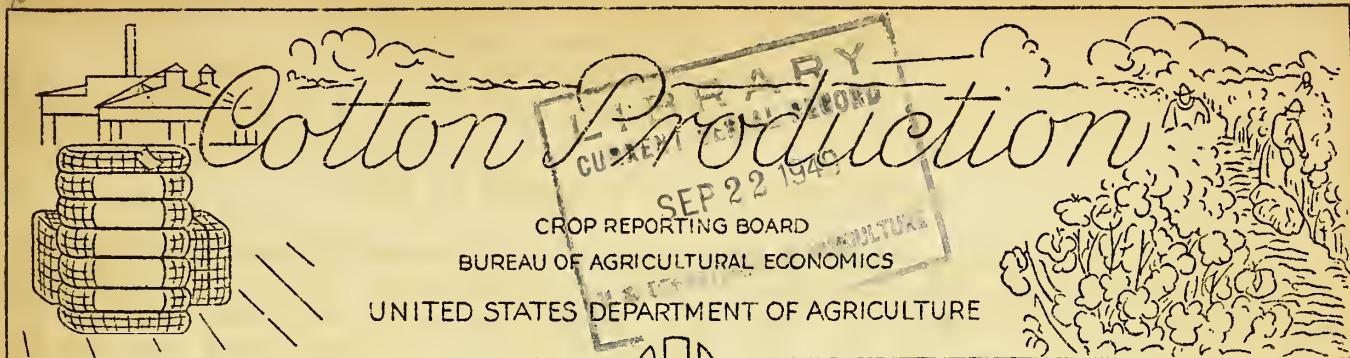


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Release: September 8, 1949

BAE

11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

SEPTEMBER 1949

A cotton crop of 14,943,000 bales is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The indicated 1949 crop for the United States, based on information as of September 1, is 138,000 bales, or 0.9 percent, more than the August 1 forecast and 75,000 bales more than last year's production. An increase in prospective production of 550,000 bales in Texas and 30,000 bales in Georgia more than offset declines in the Carolinas and Central Belt States. Production in 1948 was 14,868,000 bales and the 10-year average 11,306,000 bales.

Abandonment of cotton in cultivation on July 1, now indicated at 1.8 percent, is slightly below average. Such an abandonment would leave 25,907,000 acres for harvest compared with 22,768,000 acres in 1948 and the 10-year average of 21,396,000 acres. Prospective abandonment is unusually small this year in Texas but it is considerably above average in the Central Belt. Lint yield per acre, computed at 276.9 pounds, is 36.2 pounds below last year's record yield but 22.9 pounds above the 10-year average.

As compared with a month ago, indicated production is up 30,000 bales in Georgia and 550,000 bales in Texas. Decreases in prospective production by States compared with a month ago are as follows: Virginia, 2,000 bales; North Carolina, 30,000 bales; South Carolina, 125,000 bales; Tennessee, 25,000; Alabama, 60,000; Mississippi, 150,000; and Arkansas, 50,000 bales. In all other States prospects remain the same as forecast on August 1.

In the Carolinas, humid-showery weather continued during most of August, increasing boll weevil damage and causing considerable rotting of bolls particularly in Coastal Plain counties. Deterioration during August was especially heavy in South Carolina. In Georgia, hot-dry weather in late July and well into August was favorable for maturing early cotton and applying boll weevil poison. With frequent showers and generally cloudy weather prevailing in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas during August, weevil damage was stepped up and cotton prospects declined during the month. Throughout the central and eastern part of the Belt, there are fields which are late because of unfavorable conditions at planting time. In these fields, weevil damage is especially heavy.

In Texas, rainfall was normal over the late-maturing west and northwest areas with warm weather prevailing. Cotton in those areas developed rapidly and heavy fruiting continued. Below-normal rainfall over the eastern half of the State hastened maturity of bolls and tended to hold insect infestation in check. Progress of the crop continued generally satisfactory in the three far-western cotton States.

The Bureau of the Census reports 1,247,443 bales ginned from the crop of 1949 prior to September 1, compared with 1,444,355 bales for 1948 and 686,109 bales for 1947.

No estimate of cottonseed production will be made until final ginnings for the season are released. However, if the ratio of lint to cottonseed is the same as the average for the past five years, production would be 6,027,000 tons, compared with 5,941,000 tons in 1948 and the 10-year average of 4,631,000 tons.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
 CROP REPORTING BOARD
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

Release:
 September 8, 1949
 11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

COTTON REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1949

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics makes the following report from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies. The final outturn of cotton compared with this forecast will depend upon whether the various influences affecting the crop during the remainder of the season are more or less favorable than usual.

| STATE | 1949 | | SEPT. 1 | | LINT YIELD PER | | PRODUCTION (GINNINGS) ² | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| | ACREAGE | | CONDITION | | HARVESTED ACRE | | 500-lb. gross | wt. bales | 1949 | | |
| | Total | For | Aver- | age | 1948 | 1949 | cated | age | Crop | | |
| abandonment | | harvest | 1938 | 1947 | 1938 | 1947 | 1949 | 1948 | Indicated | | |
| after | | | | | | | | | Crop | | |
| July 1 | | Thous. | | | | | | | Sept. 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Thous. | | |
| | | Pct. | acres | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Lb. | Lb. | bales | | |
| Missouri..... | 2.5 | 536 | 77 | 90 | 86 | 451 | 460 | 426 | 356 | 506 | 475 |
| Virginia..... | -- | 52 | -- | -- | -- | 348 | 447 | 345 | 22 | 24 | 23 |
| N. Carolina... | 0.9 | 813 | 76 | 89 | 67 | 355 | 447 | 319 | 549 | 678 | 540 |
| S. Carolina... | 0.6 | 1,203 | 70 | 85 | 57 | 309 | 372 | 239 | 716 | 871 | 600 |
| Georgia..... | 1.0 | 1,455 | 68 | 80 | 59 | 235 | 279 | 198 | 779 | 745 | 600 |
| Florida..... | -- | 44 | -- | -- | -- | 164 | 289 | 196 | 14 | 15 | 18 |
| Tennessee.... | 2.0 | 804 | 76 | 83 | 76 | 368 | 417 | 373 | 523 | 670 | 625 |
| Alabama..... | 1.4 | 1,755 | 71 | 84 | 59 | 262 | 353 | 246 | 901 | 1,197 | 900 |
| Mississippi.. | 4.0 | 2,726 | 69 | 89 | 57 | 318 | 441 | 255 | 1,588 | 2,353 | 1,450 |
| Arkansas..... | 3.1 | 2,384 | 72 | 89 | 68 | 334 | 428 | 322 | 1,329 | 1,982 | 1,600 |
| Louisiana.... | 3.0 | 1,038 | 64 | 79 | 66 | 261 | 382 | 289 | 528 | 756 | 625 |
| Oklahoma..... | 3.5 | 1,158 | 65 | 74 | 75 | 163 | 175 | 170 | 521 | 374 | 410 |
| Texas..... | 1.0 | 10,296 | 69 | 70 | 88 | 170 | 176 | 233 | 2,722 | 3,150 | 5,000 |
| New Mexico... | 3.5 | 312 | 87 | 94 | 89 | 497 | 542 | 477 | 119 | 236 | 310 |
| Arizona..... | 0.5 | 375 | 87 | 94 | 97 | 423 | 558 | 576 | 174 | 328 | 450 |
| California.. | 0.6 | 957 | 93 | 87 | 93 | 602 | 576 | 652 | 447 | 968 | 1,300 |
| Other States ³ | -- | 19 | -- | -- | -- | 413 | 432 | 422 | 16 | 15 | 17 |
| UNITED STATES | 1.8 | 25,907 | 71 | 82 | 74 | 254.0 | 313.1 | 276.9 | 11,306 | 14,868 | 14,943 |
| Amer. Egypt. ⁴ | -- | 5.8 | -- | -- | -- | 279 | 434 | 378 | 29.5 | 3.6 | 4.6 |

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Allowances made for interstate movement of seed cotton for ginning.

^{3/} Illinois, Kansas, and Kentucky for all years and Nevada for 1948 and 1949.

^{4/} Included in State and United States totals. Grown principally in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

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